

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 167215

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, PU

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: UN MEMBERSHIP FOR GUINEA-BISSAU

REF: (A) STATE 146266; (B) LISBON 3183; (C) USUN 2628

1. EMBASSY WILL NOTE (REFTEL C) GUINEA-BISSAU REPS
NEW YORK HAVE NOW SUBMITTED FORMAL APPLICATION TO SYG FOR
GUINEA-BISSAU UN MEMBERSHIP. REQUEST COULD BE ACTIVATED
IN UN SC AT ANY TIME, PARTICULARLY IF SOVIET AMB. MALIK,
AS PRESIDENT OF SC FOR AUGUST, WISHES TO MAKE MISCHIEF.
NEVERTHELESS WE HOPEFUL THAT INTERESTS OF PARTIES IN NON-
CONTENTIOUS ADMISSION (AS WELL AS PLANNED SYG TRIP TO
LISBON AND CURRENT SC PREOCCUPATION WITH CYPRUS) WILL
SERVE TO DISCOURAGE PREMATURE SC CONSIDERATION OF
APPLICATION.

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2. PRINCIPAL MISSING FACTOR IS PORTUGAL'S LATEST THINKING

ON TIMETABLE FOR G-B INDEPENDENCE. UNLESS EMBASSY BELIEVES IT UNWISE, EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH GOP AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO GAIN LATEST READING OF GOP SCENARIO, E.G. POSSIBLE HIGH LEVEL VISITS TO GUINEA-BISSAU, OR DATES WHEN FURTHER GOP ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING STATUS OF GUINEA-BISSAU CAN BE EXPECTED.

3. YOU SHOULD ALSO INFORM GOP THAT WE WANT TO WORK CLOSELY WITH GOP AND HOPE TO BE ABLE TO ADOPT POSTURE IN UNSC WHICH

WILL BE MOST HELPFUL TO ITS EFFORTS. GUINEA-B REPS NOW SEE US AS ONLY POSSIBLE OBSTACLE TO EARLY AND FAVORABLE SC RECOMMENDATION ON THEIR APPLICATION (SINCE UK AND FRANCE SEEM LIKELY TO ABSTAIN REGARDLESS OF TIMING OF SC MEETINGS). IT WOULD OF COURSE BE MOST HELPFUL IF GOP CAN REAFFIRM ITS INTENTION TO MOVE QUICKLY ON SCENARIO AND IF WE CAN REFER TO GOP VIEWS IN ANY CONSULTATIONS THIS SUBJECT IN NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT WISH TO PUSH PORTUGUESE UNDULY ON THIS POINT AS WE RECOGNIZE PROBLEMS THEY FACE.

4. FYI ONLY. WE OF COURSE WOULD PREFER NOT TO BE ISOLATED IN ANY SC VOTES ON GUINEA-BISSAU. IT POSSIBLE GOP WOULD NOT OBJECT TO OUR ABSTAINING ON GUINEA-BISSAU MEMBERSHIP IF IT CAME UP PREMATURELY (RATHER THAN VOTE AGAINST) SINCE GOP HAS RECENTLY HAD NO OBJECTION TO OUR ABSTENTIONS ON GUINEA-BISSAU MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER FORUMS. WE ANXIOUS TO GET EARLY RETURNS. KISSINGER

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